

Remarks

The Office Action notes that claims 1-9 are pending in the application. By this response claims 1, 6 and 9 have been amended and claims 10-11 have been added. Support for the claim amendments and the new claims can be found throughout the originally filed specification, claims and drawings. Therefore, no new matter has been added. Claims 1-11 are now pending.

35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112. The Applicants have amended claim 6 to address this rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

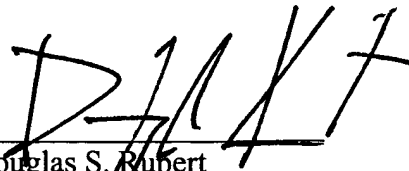
Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Moslehi (U.S. Patent No. 5,846,883).

To anticipate claim 1, the Office Action must establish that Moslehi teaches all of the elements of claim 1 as set forth therein. The Applicants respectfully submit that the Office Action fails to establish that Moslehi teaches or suggests all of the elements of the amended claims and new claims 10 and 11. Claim 1, as amended, recites “a plurality of antenna units, each comprising a coil consisting of a single turn, being parallel-connected with each other and receiving the very high frequency power from the first very high frequency power source;”. The Office Action directs the Applicant to FIG. 25(a) of Moslehi as disclosing a plurality of antenna units, which are designed to function with the vacuum process chamber of FIG. 22. The RF power supplies 608, 609, 610 of FIG.22, however, are utilized at a frequency of 13.56 MHz (col. 24, lines 15-39). This frequency requires that the antenna units shown in FIG. 22 have more than a single turn. In contrast, claim 1 recites a plurality of antenna units, each comprising a coil consisting of a single turn. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submits that the Office Action cannot establish that Moslehi discloses all of the elements of claim 1 as set forth therein. The Applicants further submit that new claim 11 is allowable for the same reasons as given with respect to claim 1.

Turning now to the remaining independent claims, claim 9 recites an RF power supplying apparatus comprising “a very high frequency power source supplying a very high frequency power having a frequency greater than 30 MHz;” The Office Action recites col. 24, lines 29-30 of Moslehi as disclosing a high frequency power source. A close reading of Moslehi, however, indicates that the power source only operates over a frequency range of 1 MHz to 30MHz (col. 24, lines 25-30). The RF power supply in claim 9 is not so limited and operates at a frequency greater than 30 MHz. In fact, the RF power source operates at a range up to 300 MHz. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the Office Action cannot establish that Moslehi teaches all of the elements of claim 9. The Applicants further submit that new claim 10 is allowable for the same reason as given with respect to claim 9.

In view of the aforesaid, the Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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